

2/15/78 4/17/78  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
**TELEGRAM**

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

15 FEB 78

ACTION:  
POL-3

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Classification

**CXØ15**

INFO:

AMB R 142305Z PER 78  
DCM FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
ECOM TO RUESDO/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 7257  
CONS INFO RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 9896  
AID BT  
FAAS [REDACTED] STATE Ø39192  
ODC  
DAO E.O. 11652: GDS  
USIS  
CHRON TAGS: SHUM, PINS, AR, UY

**ACTION COPY**

Action taken:

*Noted*

Date:

*2/15/78*

Initials:

*[Signature]*

13/vm SUBJECT: URUGUAYAN ARRESTED IN ARGENTINA  
REF: BUENOS AIRES 459 NOTAL

1. REFTEL HUMA\* RIGHTS ROUNDUP CABLE CONTAINED FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH WHICH IS BEING REPEATED TO MONTEVIDEO FOR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE FOLLOWUP.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 12 OF BA 459:  
REFUGEES ARRESTS---  
RECENTLY ARRIVED UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES OFFICER KEVIN LYONETTE TOLD EMBOFF JANUARY 18 THAT HE WAS CONCERNED ON HEARING THAT AT LEAST 12 AND POSSIBLY AS MANY AS 25 URUGUAYANS RESIDING IN BUENOS AIRES APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED THERE BETWEEN DECEMBER 23 AND ABOUT JANUARY 12. LYONETTE SAID THAT PERSONS CLOSE TO THOSE ARRESTED FEAR THEY MAY HAVE BEEN FORCEFULLY RETURNED TO URUGUAY. THESE PERSONS ARE NOT "REFUGEES" IN THE STRICT SENSE THAT THEY HAVE SOUGHT AND OBTAINED UNHCR OFFICIAL REFUGEE STATUS. URUGUAYANS, HE SAID, ARE RELUCTANT TO SEEK THIS STATUS UNLESS THEY SENSE THEMSELVES IN IMMEDIATE DANGER. LYONETTE ALSO TOLD OF THE INADVERTENT RETURN TO URUGUAY OF AN URUGUAYAN WOMAN FORMERLY DETAINED HERE AND UNDER EXPULSION ORDER BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. HER RETURN TOOK PLACE WHILE PERMISSION WAS BEING SOUGHT FROM SOME THIRD COUNTRY FOR HER ENTRY. ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES WERE AT ONCE AWARE OF THEIR ERROR AND VOLUNTEERED INTERVENTION IN THE WOMAN'S BEHALF WITH URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES. LYONETTE BELIEVED THE WOMAN WAS SAVED BY THIS INTERVENTION FROM ANY URUGUAYAN RETRIBUTION AGAINST HER. END TEXT. VANCE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S2000000044)

BT U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IP5

#9 Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release

( ) Excise

( ) Deny

Classification

83F86

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part

(X) In Full

( ) Classify as

( ) Extend as

Date

Declassify on

Reason

24/55

**UNCLASSIFIED**

OPTIONAL FORM 151(H)  
(Formerly FS-412(H))  
January 1976  
Dept. of State